Manufacturing of Vanaspati

2701. SHRI JOY NADUKKARA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was direction in force upto 1970 that the manufactures of Vanaspati must use coconut oil to a volume of 70 percent production of it;

(b) the reasons for removing this control later;

(c) whether it has been noted by Government that the manufacturing of vanaspati are using low quality and low cost oils for its production and this acquiring huge profits; and

(d) whether Government would give directives to the manufacturers of Vanaspati to use at least 50 per-cent coconut oil and if so, that quality of the product may be improved and fall in price of coconut can be checked?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Vanasapati is required to conform to standards of quality and other requirements including permitted oils to be used in its manufacture as laid down under the Vegetable Oil Products (Standard of Quality) Order 1975 and also Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955.

(d) In accordance with the Vegetable Oil Products (Standards of Quality) Order, 1975, no ceiling has been fixed for the use of coconut oil in the manufacture of Vanasapati.

New Agricultural policy of Karnataka Government

2702. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government are aware of the fact that Government of Karnataka has come out with a draft agricutural policy which if implemented, can prove a model policy for other States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction therto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b) Government of Karnataka has prepared a draft Agricultural Policy with the aim of spurring growth in Agricultural and allied sectors which would generate more employment and cut down poverty in rural areas. The policy envisages an investment of Rs.1000 crores per annum in the agriculture sector during the next five years. Out of this, roughly 50 percent is proposed to be contributed by the private sector and the rest by the public sector.

The Government of Karnataka have sought the comments of Central Government on the draft Agricultural policy which would be forwarded to them in consultation with all concerned.

Central Assistance to Harayana for Flood-Relief Measures

2703. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the answers to Starred Question 2 and Unstarred Question 1270 given in the Rajya Sabha on Ist December, 1995 and 8th December, 1995 respectively and state whether Government have received any report about the disbursement of relief aid to the flood victims in Haryana and whether any caste-criteria were adopted in this regard and sufferers of certain castes denied any relief; if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): No, Sir

Availability of Fertilizers in U.P.

2704. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the availability of fertilizers in Central and Eastern U.P. is not satisfactory and the farmers are facing problems; and

(b) if so, the steps Government are taking to solve the problems of the farmers?